

PE-174444

HQ. U. S. FORCES IN AUSTRIA
HEADQUARTERS, S.S.U. AUSTRIA
APO 777

~~SECRET~~

6 November 1945

SUBJECT: Aradi, Zolt - Stateless Hungarian

TO : Chief L-2 Branch, Austria

1. In order to bring your files up to date and to attempt to remove permanently some of the apparently unjustified and slightly derogatory notes in your records, the following facts are submitted:

a) Mr. Aradi, a journalist closely affiliated with Catholic newspapers in Hungary prior to the war, wrote anti-nazi publications as early as 1930. This is personally vouched for by Mr. Martin Himler, Chief of the Hungarian Section SI, who has seen one such publication. Because of his attachment to Catholic teachings, Mr. Aradi has also written articles which might be construed as anti-Russian. This has caused one Communist paper in Hungary to try to pin a "war criminal" label on him.

b) Mr. Himler further states: "I met Aradi in Bari in September 1944 and was closely associated with him since then. At first I was afraid that his recent Hungarian connections might - subconsciously - bias his evaluation of Hungarians, and have paid special attention to this aspect of his work.

Throughout over a year's observation I was fully convinced that he is intelligent, honest, and that while his general outlook is conservative, and perhaps somewhat partial to the Catholic Church, his integrity is beyond question, and his reports are not prejudiced or colored by whatever his own opinions or convictions may be."

2. It can be stated on behalf of Lt. Colonel Chepin and the undersigned from firsthand knowledge that Mr. Aradi has at all times been discreet, fully conscious of his responsibilities with the organization, appreciative of the opportunity to work with the Americans, and finally, a source of priority intelligence which over a period of time has proven to be reliable and extremely valuable to our customer agencies.

3. It is hoped that Mr. Aradi will shortly get a visa to the United States, as it is his ambition to become an American.

A. C. U.
ALFRED C. ULMER
Lt. Comdr. USNR
Chief SI/Austria

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